

## Message Text

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11  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-07 /090 W

----- 038390

R 281455Z APR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2509  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR EG SY XF  
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON SYRIAN UNDOF RENEWAL AND SYRIAN DEVELOP-  
MENTS

REF: CAIRO 5638

1. LOCAL DAILIES APRIL 28 GIVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE TO HAARETZ  
ARTICLE OF PREVIOUS DAY, WHICH APPARENTLY ALLEGED THAT SYRIA  
HAS NOTIFIED US OF SARG INTENTION TO RENEW UNDOF MANDATE ON GOLAN  
FOR ADDITIONAL SIX MONTHS, "AS A RETURN FAVOR" TO USG, WHICH  
REMAINED SILENT DURING SYRIAN INTERVENTION IN LEBANON. BOTH  
AHAM AND AKHBAR SPECULATE THAT SARG DECISION TO RENEW UNDOF  
MANDATE, WHICH EXPIRES MAY 30 CLEARS WAY FOR MEETING IN NEAR  
FUTURE BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT  
ASAD.

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2. AHAM COVERAGE, MORE RESTRAINED THAN AKHBAR VERSION, CONTAINS

FINAL PARAGRAPH STATING THAT SENATOR JAVITS, UPON HIS RETURN FROM ME TRIP, COMMENTED THAT "SYRIAN OFFICIALS" GAVE HIM IMPRESSION THAT UNDOF TO BE RENEWED, BUT THIS PLAYED AS POSSIBLE CONFIRMATION OF HAARETZ VERSION (WHICH ATTRIBUTED TO "RELIABLE WESTERN SOURCE".) AKHBAR HANDLING OF UNDOF QUESTION STRESSES NEW "REAPPROACHMENT " BETWEEN SYRIA AND US AND SOUNDS MUCHMORE POSITIVE ON IMMINECNCE OF FORD-ASAD GET-TOGETHER. SENATORJAVITS COMMENTED,NOT ON UNDOF RENEWAL, BUT ON FACT THAT ASAD WOULD BE HAPPY" TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT FORD, ALSO CITED IN AKHBAR, WHICH ALSO QUOTES WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT THAT FORD-ASAD MEETING NOT IMPOSSIBLE, BUT NO DATE HAS BEEN SET.

3. BOTH ARHAM AND AKHBAR ALSO CARRY FRONT-PAGESQUIBS NOTING THAT PRESIDENT SADAT PREVIOUS DAY RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM PRESIDENT ASAG, THANKING EGYPTIANS FOR TELEGRAM OF CONGRATUALTIONS ON OCCASSIONOF SYRIAN EVACUATION DAY HOLIDAY (SEE CAIRO 5384). BOTH ARTICLES PROVIDE INNOCOUS TEXT OF ASAD TELEGRAM AND CONTAIN NO COMMENTARY.

4. GUMHURIYAA CONTINUESITS COVERAGE OF SYRIAN DOMESTIC UNREST (SEE REFTEL). QUOTING "INFORMED SOURCES," ARTICLE NOTES POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT TO KUWAIT PREVIOUS DAY BY SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM AND SPECULATES THAT DELAY (VISIT NOW SCHEDULED TO BEGIN APRIL 28) CAUSED BY PLANNED SYRIAN MINISTERIAL CHANGES (AND LIKELY OUSTER OF KHADDAM) CITED REFTEL. GUMHURRIYA ALSO MENTIONS ARREST OF 62 SENIOR OFFICERS IN SYRIA, BUT THIS ALSO APPPEAR TO BE REPLAYOF APRIL 27 COVERAGE OF ALLEGEDLY ABORTIVE SYRIAN COUP AND FIGURE 62 PROBABLY ONLY CLARIFICATION OF "LARGE NUMBER" OF SYRIAN SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS CITED REFTEL.

5. COMMENT: EGYPTIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF POSSIBLE SYRIAN RENEWAL OF UNDOF MANDATE, AFTERMATH OF PURPORTED COUP IN SYRIA, AND MNEUVERINGS IN LEBANESE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS (AHRAM OPINES THAT EGYPTIAN FAVORITE RAYMOND EDDE IS FRONT RUNNER) GIVES IMPRESSION THAT EGYPTIANS AT PRESENT UNSURE JUST HOW ASAD INTENDS TO PROCED. CRITICISM OF SYRIANS HAS BEEN RATHER MUTED IN PAST DAYS AND EGYPTIAN DAILIES OTHER THAN GUMHUR-IYYA (WHICH DOES NOT CARRY UNDOF RENEWAL STORY) HAVE PICKED UP ON SIDER IMPLICATIONS OF SYRIAN UNREST (SUCH AS REPORT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRAQI INVOLVEMENT IN RECENT EVENTS.) AND BLAMES ASAD'S TROUBLES SOLELY ON SARG POLICIES IN LEBANON. ESEENTIALLY, EGYPTIAN APPEAR TO BE WAITING FOR ASAD TO SHOW HIS HAND. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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